

CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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The unskill war at Nashville continues with unabated fury and stench.

Italians seem to have again developed some of their old staying qualities.

Airplane postage has been fixed at 34 cents a throw, probably to prevent overcrowding.

Japan is troubled over the question of financial independence. So are a good many of the rest of us.

An exchange declares that the airplane board has seen 100,000 acres of Texas land to castor beans.

That 1,000,000 German Mausers and that 1,000,000,000 rounds of cartridges continue to keep discreetly out of sight.

Perhaps the president thought it well that congress decide what it wanted to investigate before starting.

There appear to be any number of republicans who refuse to make Gov. Whitman's third cup of coffee unanimous.

British and German reports agree in one particular, at least. The Vindictive was sunk in the mouth of Ostend harbor.

Ravages of the U-boat have not been eliminated, but it may be some comfort to know that the chase has not been abandoned.

Mr. Gompers' tone of voice in demanding the recall of Gov. Yager, of Porto Rico, indicated that he wasn't joking about it.

Every few days we are confronted with the disconcerting intelligence that Cole Blaise is running for senator over in South Carolina.

Of course, there is no difficulty about defining which side of the Roosevelt-Hoover controversy the New York Tribune would take.

We shall suspend comment on the selection of Charles E. Hughes for the airplane probe until the colonel has time to express himself.

The governor of Louisiana is perfectly willing for that state to enfranchise its women, but he draws the line at the suffrage amendment.

Germany explains that her continued invasion of Russia is "purely military." It is not stated just what other explanation might be adjusted to it.

British and French authorities are anxious for a supply of liberty motors, notwithstanding the adverse opinion of American newspaper strategists.

Everybody agrees that nonessentials should be cut out for the period of the war. But there is some diversity of opinion as to what are nonessentials.

It has been suggested that Wall Street's interest in the battle for democracy bears a direct ratio to the number of "41 a year" patriots on the job at Washington.

It is the purpose of the Teuton emperors to make the task of self-determination just as easy as possible in the detached provinces by selecting rulers for them in advance.

It is difficult to understand how the unity of Germany and Austria could be made more complete unless the former should annex the latter. In practical effect, that is about what has been done.

The Athens Post declares that there is entirely too much fuss about saving. Other scribes sometimes find it monotonous to have dinned into their ears virtues which they are unable to practice.

With Jim Ham Lewis and Medill McCormick leading their respective hosts in the Illinois race for senator, it will be difficult to keep up interest in other things, even the pennant contest.

The death of Maj. D. A. Carpenter at Knoxville removes an East Tennessee landmark. He was 81 years old and had long been prominent in the state's political circles, and was at one time a close personal friend of the late Senator Isham G. Harris.

An Atlanta man, in Washington, declares that cotton at 14 cents in 1914 was more profitable to the planter than cotton at 30 cents now. There was no "cotton at 14 cents in 1914," but adopting this man's logic, the planter ought to insist on getting the price reduced before he is ruined.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC ENERGY.

It has been a source of annoyance and disappointment to us that congress seems to have encountered an impasse as regards legislation for waterpower development. Perfunctory committee hearings are held once in awhile, it is true, but complications are multiplied instead of being cleared away. Private interests concerned about the terms of such legislation are apparently able to throttle the efforts of the people of the administration even to obtain the enactment of a draft which would measurably safeguard the rights of the public in this great enterprise.

In our vexation over the interminable delays about the inauguration of this great beneficent undertaking, we have sometimes felt that it would be well for the federal government to take entire control and proceed to harness the rivers for the service of the people, just as it put through the Panama canal after private interests had confessed their inability to perform the task. The need for hydro-electric power development is so imminent and urgent that, while we hesitate before a program of government ownership, we fail would have the government see to it that this great and practical conservation measure is started toward consummation.

It is comforting to us, therefore, when thus driven into a corner, to find that others are tending the same way. The New York Sun recently interviewed Charles S. Bradley, who is a pioneer in the field of nitrate production from the air by means of electrical energy, and the originator of some 150 processes and appliances in chemistry and technology. He is described as a "scientific symphony in gray" and was one of those who helped to change aluminum from a semi-precious to a base metal, lowering the price from \$25 to 25 cents a pound.

Mr. Bradley waxed eloquent in the contemplation of the rich resources of the country and derives much satisfaction from the fact that he has had somewhat to do in assisting in their development. Speaking of the hydro-electric situation, Mr. Bradley, who has long been associated with Thomas A. Edison, declares, among other things:

"In my opinion the time has come for the nation to provide distributed electrical energy for all purposes and for all its people. The census for 1920 should be taken with a view to ascertaining the consumption of power which would be expected in each district. When this is completed an arrangement could be made under which the farmer, the shoemaker, or, for that matter, the woman at her sewing machine, could have motive power available for his or her use.

"How tremendously this would conserve time and labor! As such power can be metered, this method would furnish a just and easy way of distributing the burden of taxation. The amount of the tax would bear such a relatively small proportion to the horsepower developed that it would scarcely be felt by the consumer of power."

There are several considerations why the government might undertake the fuller development of hydro-electric energy. One of them is the urgent need and another is the seeming impracticability of obtaining it in any other way. The war has brought home to us how negligent we have been in this matter, but apparently the necessities of the situation exert little influence upon the celerity of the movements of congress. The waterpower committee of the house is now intermittently rehearsing testimony taken four years ago.

National ownership and distribution of hydro-electric energy is, in some respects, preferable to ownership of railroads, since it would provide a potential measure of control, not only of railroads, but of other public utilities and industries which use artificial power in their operation. This could be effectuated by a system of licenses. It is also important in view of the inadequacy of other sources of power, heat and light, in that it would supply the people with these indispensable necessities and at reasonable and uniform service prices.

Development and utilization of the country's waterpower resources will necessarily be a slow process at best. If undertaken on private account, it will take time to organize associations with the necessary capital, and more time to install the dams and plants. Hence there is no time to waste. Public comfort and industrial expansion are being hindered by the delay. The people should make congress understand that its playing with the disposition of so transcendent a matter is approaching the limit of tolerance.

The New York World has taken Speaker Champ Clark to task for making a democratic speech out in Missouri the other day. Which illustrates what a job the speaker has on hand to please his metropolitan critics. The World probably doesn't understand it, but Champ Clark ought not to be judged by the same standard as other public men. He doesn't mean to be partisan—offensively so—toward the other side, among whom he is very popular, but making democratic speeches is a habit with him which he finds it difficult to break. If he makes a speech at all, it is very apt to be a democratic speech. It is just up to and before he can stop it. But Champ's heart is in the right place. Everybody knows that, and that is what counts.

The desire to help those detached Russian provinces in their work of self-determination is probably the underlying reason why the Kaiser has so carefully kept the young Hohenzollerns out of danger.

There are several things which indicate that the goblins were after Emperor Carl on his late trip to great headquarters. It seems that the self-determination fever has broken out among his home subjects.

POLITICAL FLASHES.

Notwithstanding the absorbing nature of the military situation and the desperate task of whipping the Hun, politicians who meet at the national capital will talk shop occasionally. At any rate, the Washington City reporters say they hear more or less of political chatter around the hotel lobbies.

Congressman Gaines, of West Virginia, has been taking a fling at the situation, and he can see nothing to it but a sweeping republican victory this fall. Mr. Gaines says it is all right and proper to give our energies to win the war and forget about party, but thinks he can see great advantage to be derived from constructive criticism, whatever that may imply. Mr. Gaines declares it is too early yet to talk about candidates for president—thinks, however, that the war may provide one—but is quite sure, even now, "that the people will not vote for any man for a third term." He didn't say whether he meant a third consecutive term.

Another republican leader who breezed into town from New York, sees no end of trouble for the democrats up that way over the selection of a candidate for governor. He manifested much concern as to whether it was to be or not to be—Hearst. He thinks the democrats may hold their own in congressional elections in the big city, but that they are bound to lose up state. And he, furthermore, intimates that if the Oyster Bay colonel should be persuaded to run for governor—against Hearst or anybody else—it would thenceforth be all over but the shouting.

One of the hungry faithful from North Carolina also found it impracticable to avoid the reporters—modest as he was—and confided the information that "republicans in North Carolina are going after every office from that of Senator F. M. Simmons down to constable." He further on declares that republican chances of capturing the tarheel state are just fine, and, while democrats do not concede that there is any danger, for himself he thinks they have a rude awakening coming to them.

These are just a few items picked up at random. It is evident that, whatever the national exigency, interest in America's favorite game is never entirely abandoned. Again, it is indicated that all of the drives projected this year are not in the direction of Berlin. There is manifestly a form of patriotism which finds expression in taking care of the country at home.

WHAT WE MUST DO.

Just as an indication of how unnecessary are shortages of food and wool in this country, the following extract is taken from a western exchange:

"It is said that, without interference from other agricultural pursuits, enough sheep can be raised in any five average western or northern states to furnish enough wool to clothe the United States, and by speeding up agricultural methods and utilizing land now wasted, five times enough food to feed the people of this country can be raised in the United States. None doubt either of these statements. The problem is not what we can do, but what we will do."

The possibilities are with us, all right. We have been sleeping on them and not utilizing them. The problem is indeed, "not what we can do, but what we will do." And what we will do is usually gauged by what necessity forces upon us.

It is easy to conceive of the possibility of raising all the sheep we need on a comparatively small area and without additional soil preparation. The sheep is a close and economical feeder and can almost get its living from what is left by other animals. But dogs have enjoyed such a vogue that sheep raising has almost become a lost art.

America has an unmatched wealth of resources, but we have been content to skim off the cream until little remains. We must now begin the work of making two blades of grass, two ears of corn or two food animals grow where only one grew before. It can be done all right, but not without some pains.

TWO AMERICAN COLONELS.

The fact may have occasionally escaped public attention, but America has more than one colonel. The one at Oyster Bay gets most of the headlines, but he has a neighbor nearby who is leading him a merry chase for the laurels. The latter is Col. George B. M. Harvey, self-confessed discoverer of Woodrow Wilson. Both of these colonels are experts in winning the war—they modestly admit it—but sometimes they do not reach similar conclusions. The Oyster Bay colonel is disgusted with our war progress—which, we believe, he contends has not yet made us a factor equal to Belgium—but the other colonel has brushed obstacles aside and is getting things done. Moreover, he is keeping himself informed as to the "facts" which come to him "direct," notwithstanding efforts of the administration to hamper his work. Here are a few items which he passes out to the people:

"Foch has 900,000 reserves of French, British and Americans, in perfect condition, who have not yet been put into action, but can be at any moment.

"England has approximately 600,000 fully trained men, of whom at least 400,000 can be placed on the line within twenty hours.

"While Mr. Baker was away, the United States, under the compelling force of Gen. March, efficiently aided by Gen. Goethals, dispatched to France 250,000 men in addition to the 150,000 already there, and will send 200,000 in May and 200,000 in June unless Mr. Baker intervenes. That will add nearly two millions of fresh fighting men to the western front for the allies, while the enemy has less than one million of reserves."

That looks more like whipping some-

body. Our money's up on this colonel who, instead of petulantly complaining about administration indifference and inefficiency, takes the helm into his own hands and does things. He may count the Americans two or three times to make his totals look impressive, but who minds a little thing like that? If Wilson and Baker will just keep out of the way, he will soon have the Hun on his knees begging for mercy!

Through the columns of his War Weekly, he announces that we are coming strong, and if the allies will just sit tight, a little longer, the tide will turn for good and all. Now, why cannot the Oyster Bay colonel get in the game that way?

News that the Italian navy, emulating the example set by the British, has entered Pola harbor and destroyed one of the biggest Austrian battleships brings a heartening message. At the same time, the Italian air service is beginning again to get in its work. The British and Italian naval exploits are very important within themselves. They are much more important as evidencing allied initiative. They encourage hope that others of similar character are to follow. These incidents, considered in connection with the halting of the great drive and the steady increase of reserves in France indicate that the offensive may soon pass to the allies, generally. American crops are promising, the "bridge" of transports is daily being added to and Americans in still larger numbers are hurrying to the front. The march toward Berlin should be under way before the summer is over. When that approaches the Rhine, the Hun is likely to evince more interest in the conditions of peace.

In a progressive community a public auditorium is a necessity. It provides a community center which it is very difficult to dispense with. It is a form of popular unity, in that it affords facilities for community intercourse. Whatever the difficulties in the way of the erection of an auditorium, they should be removed. We are aware that it is easier to say this than to do it, perhaps. But it should be done. Financial facilities are, of course, an important consideration. But it has seemed once or twice as if these were in a fair way to be provided. Every possible available resource should be used to avoid, if practicable, the creation of more debts. The authorities, however, it seems to us, ought to address themselves to the project with a determination of finding a way. The decision to use a site belonging to the city and the sale of the old auditorium lot would look like making a start.

TO THE EDITOR

(Communications in this department represent the views of the writers. All matters of public interest may be discussed briefly.)

A Word to the Mothers' Improvement League.

Editor The News.
At a recent meeting of the Mothers' Improvement League in the North St. Elmo school building, certain members expressed their indignation and resentment of the new Florence Crittenton home being referred to as a St. Elmo institution. However, on the other hand, they expressed themselves as being heartily in accord with the work of these good women.

It is true there is yet much of the Pharisee and scribe within us. We commend good works, but hold ourselves aloof in the high places as examples of virtue.

We must remember that some 2,000 years ago these same Pharisees and scribes went to Christ and questioned Him concerning His rash act of eating and drinking with publicans and sinners. Luke vi:32. "And Jesus answering said unto them, 'they that are in health have no need of a physician; but they that are sick.' I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

This thing happened again, Luke xv, and Jesus spoke the parable of the lost sheep.

He also uttered a prophecy which should be a great encouragement to the world in this dark hour, when He said, John x:16: "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."

And after He was crucified He was still grieving over His lost sheep that He must leave still straying, so He came back to walk by the sea of Tiberias, where His disciples were casting their nets, and here He questioned and commissioned Simon Peter, who of all His disciples loved Him best.

Three times He asked him, "Simon, son of John, lovest thou me?" Peter was grieved because He said unto him the third time, "lovest thou me?" And he said unto him, "Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest I love thee." Jesus saith unto him, "feed my sheep."

What a beautiful and holy commission that was.

And I am sure that if some of us today who are owners of sheep were going away we would be sure to leave them in the keeping of those who would be the most concerned about their welfare.

This League of Mercy is striking at the very heart of the serpent that has wrought all the sin and sorrow that the world has ever known.

Mothers of this generation, you should be eager to assist, and proud of your high commission, and help to give your children, their children and the generations to follow after you, those things which your hearts have sighed for. How well you know those moments of trials which have come to you in life. Doubt, fears, heartaches and silent tears. Why? Because the good women of the generations before you threw up their hands in horror of sin and fled from the sight of it. But today they are about their Father's business with their lights shining into the dark corners of sin, helping to make the world a fit place in which to live, and their labors shall not be in vain, for in the distance do we not see a vision of a beautiful generation of boys and girls, whose morals and peace have been fashioned by the tireless efforts of this day?

LILLIAN VERMILYE.

St. Elmo

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

By Condo



THE JARR FAMILY

By Roy L. McCardell

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"After all, it won't be Irene Cackberry who will visit us; it will be Gladys. She's here now," said Mrs. Jarr when Mr. Jarr came home the other evening.

"You seem pleased about it," remarked Mr. Jarr. "I thought you didn't want to be bothered with either of them."

"But Gladys is engaged," said Mrs. Jarr, in a tone that implied everything was different now.

"That was what your sister Irene so cross, and not because she resented her mother being angry because she had tinted her hair auburn when her mother was going to do that very thing with her own hair. Funny, isn't it, that?"

"Irene always knows when another daughter in the family is going to get engaged, even before a mother does? It makes so much trouble in families, except, of course, when a young man brings around his chum so he can be alone with the other sister and then both girls get engaged at the same time."

"Is Gladys going to marry a soldier?" asked Mr. Jarr, seeing in the hall a young lady's black strap and a hat with a hatpin through it, the head of which was made of a big bronze military button.

"Of course," replied Mrs. Jarr. "A slacker is always a slacker; that's why a right-minded girl has no use for them! They won't willingly volunteer in anything."

"So a slacker shuns all sorts of deadly engagements, military or matrimonial?" remarked Mr. Jarr. "Only the brave deserve the fair."

"Yes to Capt. Herbert Tynnetoff," replied Mrs. Jarr. "You used to make fun of him and his military company. But since there is a real war he has proved himself a real soldier."

"Tynnetoff for Herbert!" said Mr. Jarr. "He's a brave fellow after all; this engagement proves it."

"He's stationed here," Mrs. Jarr explained. "And until he is ordered to France and they get married—fancy dear Gladys being a war bride—I am to chaperone her."

"Yes, it's Capt. Tynnetoff, I know," said Mrs. Jarr, excitedly. "He's always the impetuous lover. Slackers are so afraid of a girl."

"Ah, yes," said Mr. Jarr. "The love of a soldier is more uniform."

STORY OF GEN. WOOD

(By Bishop A. W. Knight.)

This characteristic of the man was not better illustrated than in the incident of our first meeting. In October, 1892, I took charge of St. Philip's church, Atlanta, Ga., and Wood was a medical officer at Fort MacPherson. You can imagine the thrill that went through me, an alumnus, when I heard that Sewanee and Auburn had a date for football in Atlanta. I went and found that the hitherto unknown medical officer was to be the referee. Well, that game made history. In the growing dusk Sewanee made a touchdown which tied the score. Auburn detested and claimed that it was too late for Sewanee to make a try for goal. Wood stated that it was Sewanee's privilege as the time limit of the game had not expired. Wrangling began; the crowd surged down into the gridiron. I was in that crowd, and drew up near to this cool, imperturbable, immovable army officer, who calmly stood his ground, and stated that he would stand there until daylight if necessary to give Sewanee the privilege she had clearly won, or if Auburn took its team off the field he would award the game to Sewanee by forfeiture. When it became fully dark Auburn yielded, the crowd pushed back onto the gridiron, Wood stood under the goal, and the oval was booted clearly between the goal posts. Sewanee had won because the referee knew his business, and was a man of determination and force of character. This was the same Wood who afterward electrified the world by his spectacular career as a line officer.

I told this story on Gen. Wood recently when he was our honored guest at Sewanee, and I asked him afterwards if he remembered that game. "Yes," he said, but I never did tell you the sequel of it. After it was over, a tall young fellow by the name of Nelson, who was captain of the Auburn team, came up and shook his fist in my face and said: "The first time I catch you away from here I am going to give you such a thrashing as you have never had!" "Well," said the general, "I heard nothing more of Nelson. The Spanish war came on and afterwards I was sent to the Philippines as commanding general. On one of my tours of inspection I visited a distant out-

post which was in charge of a lieutenant. As soon as I laid eyes on this young lieutenant, I recognized Capt. Nelson, of the Auburn football team. I did not let him know of his recognition until I had finished my inspection, and then I asked him to take a walk with me. When we had withdrawn a sufficient distance, I stopped, and looking him in the eye, said, 'Nelson, the last time we met you prom-

ised to give me a thrashing the first time you caught me alone, and I have brought you away from the others to tell you that now is the opportunity to make good your word.' Nelson was very much abashed at the invitation to lick his commanding general, and began to apologize. I then slapped him on the back, and told him to forget it, as I had done long ago. (That I treasured no ill-feeling, but rather admired the man who took defeat hard."

The Fuel Outlook

(Springfield Republican.)
If the fuel outlook is as dubious as it is pictured, especially in regard to soft coal, the sooner heroic measures that may have to be taken later on are taken now the better for the country's interests. A mild season next winter would help householders to get through, and it would help the railroads. But manufacturing plants depending on soft coal for power and heat will be severely inconvenienced and even delayed in their production unless a comprehensive plan of relief is worked out in advance.

A while ago it was estimated that 600,000,000 tons of soft coal would meet our needs the coming year, but that estimate is now being raised and some authorities think 700,000,000 tons will be called for on account of the vast increase in the work of munitions plants, shipyards and airplane factories. The present rate of production of bituminous does not forecast for the year a yield of over 550,000,000 tons. Unless more coal is mined now, essential industries must be promptly curtailed. We are already warned by the British high commissioner, Sir Henry Babington Smith, in his Philadelphia speech, Saturday, that upon America must fall the main burden of shipbuilding against the submarine. That means more coal for the new shipyards and also for the ships that come out of them.

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